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Beech bark disease shuts down ski trail

by **OLIVIA ROBINSON**
Special to the Times

You will have to cross off skiing at Moose Ski Trail from your list of activities this winter. The Township of Algonquin Highlands announced on Dec. 16 that the trail will be closed for the entire 2017-2018 season because of beech bark disease.

Chris Card, parks, recreation and trails manager at the Township of Algonquin Highlands, said the infected trees would pose a safety risk to skiers in the area, because of what's known as "beech snap." This phenomenon occurs when large, rotted branches suddenly break off.

"When there are numerous affected trees concentrated around the trail there is an increased risk of a user being injured by a falling tree or limb," said Card. "We are also concerned that a tree could be down unexpectedly on a portion of ski trail and cause a crash hazard for skiers as they come down hills."

According to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, beech bark disease is native to Europe, an "insect-fungus complex caused by a beech scale insect and a canker

see **FANTASTIC** page 2



Special visitor

The Minden Skating Club's Alexis Feero, 7, receives a hug from Santa Claus, who came for a visit on Monday, Dec. 18 at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena. Students from all of the club's programs were invited for the free skate, which included games and Santa. The club usually holds its CanSkate lessons on Mondays./DARREN LUM Staff

LIDAR mapping front and centre

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

Just how LIDAR mapping would be used to mitigate flooding throughout the Trent watershed was the central point of discussion during a meeting of the Upper Trent Watershed Management Partnership (UTWMP) in Peterborough on Dec. 19.

UTWMP consists of representatives from Haliburton County, North Kawartha, and Trent Lakes, as well as members of the Coalition for Equitable Water Flow. Members met with representatives of the Trent Severn Waterway, which is overseen by Parks Canada, as well as the Kawartha and Ganaraska conservation authorities, to discuss flood mitigation planning.

"It was a meeting of the minds," said Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin, adding that one outcome of the meeting was an agreement that a technical working group would be established.

Representing Haliburton County on that working group will be Bruce McLennan, vice-chairman of the CEWF.

see **LIDAR** page 2

Due to the holiday schedule, the next issue of the Minden Times will come out Thursday, Jan. 11.
See you in the new year!



Melanie Hevesi
Broker

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JUST LISTED

\$119,000 - Hunter Creek Estates

Immaculate 2 bedroom home situated on a level, corner lot in Hunter Creek Estates. This lovingly maintained home has seen many upgrades over the years; Propane Furnace (2015), Windows (2014), Washer/Dryer (2015), Fridge (2015), Stove (2011), Steel Roof (2006), Laminate Flooring (2011). All of the hard work has been done, this home is ready for you to move in and enjoy, and can be available for immediate possession. Hunter Creek Estates is an adult community, conveniently located 4km south of Minden. The community leased land arrangement means low maintenance living, including garbage pick up and snow plowing.

Looking forward to working with you in 2018



'Fantastic skiing' still available throughout Frost Centre

from page 1

fungus." This cankering causes deformations which eventually kill the tree. The pervasiveness of beech bark disease in Ontario has been a concern for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for several years.

Although the Township of Algonquin Highlands maintains its own trail systems, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry oversees the management of beech bark disease because the forest is on Crown land.

It's difficult to say for certain how many trees are afflicted by beech bark disease on Moose Ski Trail, but Card estimates that this number is in the hundreds.

Card notes that how beech bark disease will affect other flora and fauna near the Moose Ski Trail area remains to be seen.

"As the beech trees fall, it leaves gaps in the forest canopy. This allows the sun to reach the ground where new growth takes over. In the area of the Moose Trail that new growth typically starts with blackberry bushes," he said.

"Trees falling are a natural part of the forest ecosystem and various species benefit from these events. It is possible that this could affect species who use beech nuts as a food source, such as black bears."

The Township of Algonquin Highlands regularly inspects its trail systems as part of a maintenance routine. Any hazard that poses a risk is monitored on a case-by-case basis.

"Luckily, the same density of affected beech trees that we see around the Moose Trail does not exist on any of our other trails," he said.

Despite the closure of expert-level Moose Ski Trail, Card said that the other trails are still operational to skiers and tourists.

The Frost Centre Ski Trail system is comprised of 26 kilometres, with the Township maintaining an additional 38 kilometres of hiking and snowshoeing trail. The Moose Ski Trail makes up just 4.8 kilometres of the Frost Centre Ski Trail system.

"Operations will continue as normal on the remaining 21 kilometres where there is fantastic skiing for all levels of ability," said Card.

As for the closure of Moose Ski Trail, Card said it's hard to say if the closure will affect tourism, but he predicts that the early onset of winter will bring fantastic early season skiing.

Visit the Algonquin Highlands ski and snowshoe trails website at <http://www.algonquinhighlands.ca/trails/ski-snowshoe-trails.php> for updates on current trail conditions.



Several dead beech trees dot the perimeter of Moose Ski Trail, which is closed for the 2017-2018 season. Photo by Chris Card

LIDAR images to assist Minden Hills in flood planning for township

from page 1

"We have technical experts in our midst," Devolin said.

He encouraged residents who want to understand more about water management to look up the CEWF online.

"I can't put it out there to the public enough, that if they would like to increase their knowledge, to look at the CEWF site," Devolin said.

Haliburton County has applied to the National Disaster Mitigation Fund to perform LIDAR mapping in the area. LIDAR, or Light Detection and Ranging, uses a laser-based system to produce extremely detailed topographical images.

While he said he realized he might sound like a broken record to some people, "the LIDAR mapping is the cornerstone in moving ahead on any of this," Devolin said.

Flood planning, including potential flood mitigation infrastructure, will be based on the imagery produced by the LIDAR mapping process.

"Certainly, we're working with the assumption that will take place," Devolin said, explaining most of the discussion at the meeting was based on the premise of the funding application being approved.

Devolin said he expects the county to hear back regarding the funding application some time in 2018, hopefully within the first quarter.

He said he realizes the process is a slow one.

"To my neighbours on Anson Street, I know this probably seems like watching paint dry, or watching a snail move down the street," Devolin said.

Some Gull River residents have expressed concerns about the river's high levels this winter.

"I understand that it creates anxiety," he said.

There was widespread flooding throughout Haliburton County in the spring of 2017, with the Township of Minden Hills declaring a state of emergency for the second time in four years.

Savage pre-trial adjourned to new year

by SUE TIFFIN
Times Staff

A judicial pre-trial on Dec. 11 planning for the R.v. William

Savage matter was adjourned until the new year.

The continuation of the judicial pre-trial, in which pre-trial matters including time estimates for court scheduling, potential resolutions and outstanding disclosure are generally discussed, will take place on Jan. 4 at 9:30 a.m. in Newmarket.

"Judicial pre-trial meetings are normally conducted in the privacy of judicial chambers, off the record, in order to promote free and full discussions," said Emilie Smith, ministry spokesperson for the Ministry of the Attorney General.

"Neither the public nor media can attend the judicial pre-trial."

At a Sept. 27 pre-trial court date, pre-trial motions were set to begin on Sept. 10, 2018 at 9:30 a.m. in Lindsay, with Savage's trial slated for Oct. 22, 2018.

Savage, from Fenelon Falls, was charged with first-degree murder on Oct. 26, 2016, in connection with the death of David Palmer, a 47-year-old man whose remains were found in the Haliburton area in May, 2015.

At the time of the arrest, OPP confirmed that Savage and Palmer were known to each other. Palmer was last seen on Oct. 2, 2015, outside of Pontypool and his vehicle was found on Oct. 14 near Spruce Lake Trail.

With files from Angelica Ingram

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Our Lady of Fatima, Minden
and St. Patrick's Church, Kinmount

New Year's Schedule

Sunday, December 31
9:00 am, St. Patrick's Church, Kinmount
10:30 am, Our Lady of Fatima Church, Minden

Feast of Mary Mother of God
Monday, January 1
9:00 am, St. Patrick's Church, Kinmount
10:30 am, Our Lady of Fatima Church, Minden

Tim Hortons donates thousands to VDO

Tim Hortons restaurants in Haliburton and Minden raised nearly \$5,000 for the Volunteer Dental Outreach for Haliburton County (VDO) by selling Smile Cookies in September. A few VDO board members received a cheque from franchise owner Nancy Bishop and her staff on Dec. 8.

This was the fourth year that Bishop donated proceeds from the annual campaign to the local charity. It has raised \$17,360 since 2014. Each year, freshly baked cookies with faces made of icing are sold for one week.

The money will go toward the VDO's annual operating costs. The VDO offers urgent dental care to low-income residents of Haliburton County. Launched in 2011 on Mountain Street in the village of Haliburton, the clinic has provided more than \$2.2 million in free dental care to more than 750 patients. They are currently seeking a hygienist to volunteer helping patients. To get involved, email volunteerdentaloutreachhc@gmail.com or call 705-457-3111.

Submitted



Tim Hortons operations manager Debbie Rouble, owner Nancy Bishop and staff present a cheque for \$4,951 to VDO board members Bill Kerr, Kathy Purc, former volunteer dentist John Purc, Lisa Kerr and Betty Mills. Absent: Janis Parker, Mark Arike, Sandra Slauenwhite-Box, Brigitte Gebauer and Melanie Aldom.

Main street bridge to undergo reconstruction

by CHAD INGRAM
Times Staff

The following are brief reports of items discussed during a Dec. 14 meeting of Minden Hills council.

Council approved a sole-source contract to Tulloch Engineering for approximately \$75,000 for engineering and consulting for the rehabilitation of the Sunnybrook Bridge, which is the formal name of the bridge along Bobcaygeon Road spanning the Gull River in Minden's downtown.

It is hoped the construction project will be able to improve the bridge's problematic sight lines.

Road superintendent Travis Wilson told council the project would likely entail either closing the entire bridge for a six-month period, or closing one lane at a time, over the span of a year.

Pass on electronic attendance

Minden Hills councillors will not act on a clause of Bill 68, the province's Modernizing Ontario's Municipal Legislation Act, that would allow municipal councillors to attend council meetings by electronic means, such as Skype. Electronic participation, however, would not count toward quorum.

"There are 100 things that could go wrong," said Mayor Brent Devolin.

"The value is not there," said Councillor Pam Sayne.

The act also allows councils to adopt new criteria for entering closed session. Councillors are scheduled to discuss that provision in January.

Fire hall project on schedule

Despite an incident where collapsed trusses caused a worker to fall from the roof of the new Minden Hills fire hall along Highway 35, interim fire chief Mike Bekking told councillors the project should still be completed on schedule for March.

That incident occurred on Nov. 21 and it was expected it

could delay the project by a number of weeks.

"The project remains on schedule," Bekking told councillors.

According to a report from Bekking, "All safety precautions, personal protective equipment and training certifications required to be in place during this work were in place, and continue to be in place as the project moves forward."

Ec Dev working group

Council appointed a number of residents to a working group, which will provide input on the township's creation of an economic development strategic plan. The township has attained the services of consulting firm Amer and Associates to develop the plan.

Appointed to the committee, with backgrounds in various sectors including agriculture, real estate, construction, retail and the food industry, are Tanya Boisvert, Molly McInerney, Shannon Blanchard, John Thomas, Lorne Buckingham and Ken Barry.

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MEETINGS & EVENTS

PUBLIC WELCOME

Jan 11 – 9:00 am, Budget Standing Committee Meeting, Minden Council Chambers

Jan 25 - 9:00 am, combined COTW/Council Meeting, Minden Council Chambers

For Council, Boards & Advisory Committee meetings, visit www.mindenhills.ca

Please Note: Council meetings are reduced to one meeting during the month of January.

RIVERWALK & WETLANDS BOARDWALK – WINTER USAGE

The Boardwalk & Logger's Crossing Bridge are cleared of snow regularly but are not sanded or salted. Residents are advised to "Exercise Caution" when using these pathways as they could develop slippery conditions.

NOTICE BUDGET STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

Take Notice that the Budget Standing Committee, comprised of all members of Council, will meet on Thursday January 11, 2018 at 9:00 am in the Council Chambers, located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, ON to review the second draft of the 2018 Budget. For further information regarding the meeting, please contact

Dawn Newhook, Clerk
Township of Minden Hills
705-286-1260 ext. 205
dnewhook@mindenhills.ca

WINTER IN THE WOODS

Kid's Camp

Jan 3-5th from 10am – 1pm

Minden Hills Museum

Age 7 & Up, \$6 per day

WEDNESDAY

Quill & Journal Making, A Wax Seal Stamp

THURSDAY

Bread Making, Crafts with Carrots

FRIDAY

Candle Making, Weaving

To Register CALL 705-286-3763 or email museum@mindenhills.ca

Seasons Greetings

From the Township of Minden Hills Council and Staff would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

MUNICIPAL HOLIDAY HOURS

Administration Office

Hours of Operation:

Dec 18th to Dec 22nd 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

CLOSED Dec 25th to Jan 1st

Regular hours resume Jan 2nd, 2018

Cultural Centre/Agnes Jamieson Gallery

CLOSED Dec 22nd to Jan 1st

Regular hours resume Jan 3rd, 2018

Landfills

All Sites are **CLOSED** Dec 25th & Jan 1st

S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena

Dec 24th 8:30 am – 11:00 am

CLOSED Dec 25th & 26th

Dec 27th – Call Arena for hours

CLOSED Jan 1st

Community Services Department

Administration Office

Hours of Operation:

Dec 18th to Dec 22nd 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

CLOSED Dec 25th to Jan 1st

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DID YOU KNOW?



Roads are Patrolled and Maintained as per the Minimum Maintenance Standard of Ontario O. Regulation 239/02.

Free ride on New Year's A half century of Santa

by **SUE TIFFIN**
Times Staff

On New Year's Eve, the roads will be safer as Haliburton County residents take up an offer from Hudson Henderson Insurance that's hard to refuse.

For the past several years, the insurance company has offered cab vouchers worth \$25 on New Year's Eve to anyone who might be impaired after celebrating, and would be safer in a taxi than on the road. This year, they've bumped the voucher to \$50.

"Darryl [Hudson] just thought, with all the push with drinking and driving... so, what can we do?" said Margaret Reiss, operations manager. "We encourage people to use it, if they're going anywhere, it's there."

The voucher is accepted by drivers through Hyland Taxi, which is the lone taxi company that services the county.

"I think it's a good idea," said Marty Grant of Hyland Taxi. "With the police and the fines and the repercussions, it's not the

same as it was in the '50s or '60s where the cop would tell my dad to take the car home and stay there for the night. Now, they take you to jail, and I think that has discouraged people from drinking and driving. Kids today, they've been trained and educated, they don't think about drinking and driving. But you still see people leaving a party who can hardly open up their door. The coupon helps. It's an extra little bonus. You don't have to pay for it."

Last year, Grant said about 10 coupons were used. Reiss acknowledged that every coupon used represents a potentially unsafe driver being off the roads.

"It's something you try to do for the community," said Reiss. "Definitely at this time of year, most people are going to go and have a drink somewhere, so save yourself getting in a car."

Coupons should be printed in advance of a cab ride, and can be found at hudsonhenderson.com. Hyland Taxi can be reached at 705-457-1777. The taxi company is currently hiring drivers for New Year's Eve and throughout the year.

by **CHAD INGRAM**
Times Staff

Haliburton County's most famous Santa Claus has been donning his red suit for many years.

Many decades, in fact.

Forty-nine years to be exact.

"I went grey really, really early," Santa says, explaining that, even as a young man, people started calling him Santa Claus.

So he figured, why not run with it?

Now "older than dirt," he can be seen at a number of local Christmas events, including Haliburton Village's Santa Claus parade, but Haliburton County's most famous Santa Claus travels to other Ontario communities as well, spreading holiday cheer there.

"I've been as far as London, St. Thomas," he says, adding he's also taken his reindeer to Peterborough, Lakefield and Bobcaygeon.

"It's the little rewards," Santa says of why he continues his Christmas tradition. "It's just amazing. I don't have Christmas for myself... I give it away."

And Christmas isn't just for kids. Before local gigs, Santa can often be spotted along the roadside in Haliburton Village, waving to passing motorists. In the days leading up to the Christmas break, Santa often shows up unannounced at local businesses, with a basket full of candy canes.

"I probably have more fun with the

adults," he says.

Children are always trying to uncover his identity.

"They pull on my beard," Santa says. "Of course, it don't come off."

"These kids are smart," he adds. "They'll ask you, 'what's your phone number?'"

But Santa's not saying.

"Contrary to what people might think, you don't just put a suit on, I'm sorry," he says. "You have to become that person."



Santa waves to all of the children in the audience at the parade in Haliburton. /JENN WATT Staff

Wishing You A Safe & Happy Holiday

Holiday Hours

Please note the office of the Haliburton County Echo will be closed December 25th to January 1st

The Minden Times will be Closed December 25th & 26th

Open December 27th, 28th, 29th from 9am to noon,
Closed January 1st



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HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS

Winter Guide 2018



Historical plaques on the way

by **JENN WATT**
Editor

Three historical plaques have been planned for Algonquin Highlands, cultural resources committee representative Jim Blake told council on Dec. 14.

The plaques will be installed at the Stanhope museum (where council chambers were once housed), the Dorset community centre (a former jail and community hall) and the Oxtongue Lake Community Centre (a former school, SS No. 2).

"One of the ways for people to enjoy those stories is through our museums, but it's also having interpretive plaques in different places which actually tell the story of what was there and get people interested in the area," he said.

Blake appeared before council to give up-

dates on the committee's activities over the last year and to put in a request for \$2,500 in next year's budget for the signage and the continued work of the committee.

He also asked that Algonquin Highlands consider purchasing a digital sign to be installed in front of the Stanhope Firefighters Community Hall. The committee put in the request last year, but were too late for budget discussions.

"We're putting the recommendation forward again. Why not? We don't see it for just the community hall, it can be for the municipality as well and we're asking, if that isn't possible in this year's budget, could you please spend a little bit of money and get some S's for the sign? Get some new letters?" Blake asked.

Financial items will be considered during the municipality's budget process.

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IN OTHER WORDS

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The top 10

AN ANNUAL tradition, here is a countdown of the top 10 *Times* stories of the year.

10. Bob Lake

The quest for a public boat launch on Bob Lake continues after a property owner closed a long-used ramp that was long-thought to be publicly owned in 2016.

9. Scotch Line landfill

Minden Hills' main landfill made a number of headlines this year, from controversy over compactor truck tipping fees, to two clean-up orders from the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, to a deficit due at least in part to reduced tipping fees.

8. Affordable housing

Pinegrove Place, an affordable housing development by the Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes Housing Corporation, is completed in Minden. The 12-unit building is the first phase of a development off Parkside Street.

7. Laurie Scott

The province's Anti-Human Trafficking Act, based heavily on a previously tabled private member's bill from Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock MPP Laurie Scott, is passed in the legislature. Scott, recognized by the government for her work on the issue, becomes a prominent voice against the practice of sex-trade-related human trafficking in Ontario.

6. Service Ontario

Bowing to public pressure after it had initially announced it would close the Service Ontario office along Highway 35 in late 2016, the province announces in February the office would stay open. There was an outpouring of anger in Haliburton County and other communities with their Service Ontario offices slated to close, with thousands of people signing online petitions.

5. Court proceedings suspended

Due to a shortage of justices of the peace in Ontario's Central East Region,

the province announces that provincial offences court proceedings at the Minden courthouse will be suspended for a year, from July 1, 2017 to July 1, 2018. Cases that would have taken place in Minden are being heard in Lindsay, and county politicians have expressed concern about increased OPP costs for transportation, and that the change may become permanent.

4. Fire hall

A project more than a decade in the making, ground is broken on a new, \$2-million Minden Hills fire hall along Highway 35. Despite a setback involving collapsed trusses in November, it is expected the project will still be completed in March.

3. "Mayor"

After Algonquin Highlands councillors voted to replace the term "reeve" with "mayor" in that municipality in July, Haliburton County's other three lower-tier councils followed suit one by one, ending a long tradition of the use of the term "reeve" in the community. Councillors agreed that "mayor" is more modern and widely recognized term for the head of council.

2. Trademarking Haliburton

In a story that garnered national media attention, a Minden man successfully trademarked the word "Haliburton," despite federal regulations that state the names of places cannot be trademarked. Politicians said there had clearly been a mistake at the federal level, and the resident eventually ceded ownership of the trademark to the County of Haliburton.

1. The flood

For the second time in the span of four years, the Township of Minden Hills declares a state of emergency as the Gull River surges its banks, overtaking swaths of Minden. Tens of thousands of sandbags are deployed around the village of Minden as some residents evacuate their homes. There are renewed calls from the public for local and upper levels of government to work on flood mitigation.



CHAD INGRAM
Reporter



This photo of an owl was submitted by Wendy Pringle of Cordell Carpet in Haliburton.

Lord of the flies

ONE OF THE best gifts I was given at Christmas this year was a book called *Classic Steelhead Flies* by John Shewey. Don't be jealous.

As most cool people probably know, this book details the history of classic steelhead flies in North America and presents the reader with dozens of practical patterns that have proven effective on these big migratory rainbow trout.

Like all great literary works, this one has lots of pictures and no big words. And, aside from making the book easier to read, these things inspire me to tie even more flies.

This is what fly fishermen do in the off season by the way, mostly because people don't like it when you cut a 60 foot casting trough in the ice or show up to their social functions dressed in waders, Tilley hat and a fishing vest.

I really like fly tying. But the other day Jenn asked me a question that no honest angler should ever be subjected to.

She perused the book she gave me and said, "These flies are really nice and all. But do you actually need these patterns just to catch fish?"

I answered in the standard, prescribed way of my people.

"Hey! Your hair looks really nice. Have you done something different with it?"

It was a very close call.

What Jenn had stumbled upon is the one secret that we fly tyers don't want anyone to know about – you don't really need all that many flies.

Shhhhhh!

At most, you need a favourite streamer pattern or two (a muddler and a woolly bugger), a couple of good searching nymphs, a

grasshopper, a generic dry may fly, caddis, and stone fly in a few sizes, and a few wet flies. If you were really trying, you could tie all of these in a day.

But then what would you do for the rest of the winter. Shovel snow? Yikes!

Besides, if we all just settled on those few reliable patterns, where would that leave all those good people in the fly tying material industry? The truth is, we fly tyers don't just feel like we have a responsibility to the fish. No, we also feel like we are helping the economy. Do you think I just ordered \$60 worth of rooster feathers because I'm just being stupid? Don't answer.

If not for fly tyers like me, hundreds of people who breed roosters for their feathers would be hanging around chicken coops for reasons that would be hard to explain.

I know. You're probably going to tell me that they would go out and find other meaningful work. But, ask yourself this:

would you hire someone who just told you that they used to breed chickens for a living?

I thought so.

We fly tyers support people whose sole job is to dye furs unnatural colours that fish may or may not like. We also provide work for those salt-of-the-earth folks who have those dream jobs – combing llamas, possums, squirrels, beavers and muskrats for their under fur.

This is part of the allure of fly tying, spending hours at the bench, painstakingly manipulating these materials to create little works of art are dead ringers for bugs, minnows, frogs and worms.

And then slipping a big fat dew worm on the end of the hook the first time your buddy turns his back.



STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Mechanically challenged

IF THERE IS reincarnation, I want to come back as a motor mechanic. That's because my current life has been a series of misadventures with machines that burn fossil fuels.

The latest involve a faithful old truck that will not move until it has been warmed up for 40 minutes, an ATV that shut down because of overheating and a snowblower that never overheats, in fact refuses to start unless its spark plug is warmed with a hair dryer.

I have a woeful history of trying to fix things on my own. It's not that I am uninterested in motorized things or unwilling to tinker when they break down. But my brain's tinkering cells go into overdrive and become confused whenever I attempt to fix something.

I tried fixing a cranky snowmobile one time. I seemed to have done everything right until I pressed the starter button and the engine exploded into flames.

Not long after that I forgot to shut the lights on my little sports car and the battery ran down. It was parked on a downward slope and had a standard transmission so the fix was obvious. I would get it rolling downhill, jump in and pop the clutch to get the engine turning.

The slope was slightly steeper than I calculated. The car began rolling and when I tried to jump in, the open door bumped me into the ditch. The car rolled progressively faster toward a sharp bend overlooking the lake.

The car never reached the water, having been grabbed and stopped by a large poplar tree. The auto body shop bill was quite a bit larger than the cost of a battery charger, as I recall.

Then there was the time that a friend gave me an old but perfectly usable snowmobile. It started and ran great just before we loaded it onto the truck. I was going to drop it off at my cottage.

It was mid-February and I was not wearing winter gear, but that was not a problem. I would quickly pull the machine off the truck and drive it the short

distance into the cottage where I had winter clothes.

The machine pulled off the truck easily, but would not start. I fiddled with the choke, checked the carb and a variety of other things as hypothermia began to set in. As I shivered and cursed, another snowmobile approached.

Its rider, dressed in black, got off his machine, approached, reached out and turned off the kill switch, then turned the key and my machine roared to life.

The stranger turned and left without a word.

My latest misadventure involved my ATV. I was plowing with it last week when a flashing thermometer symbol appeared on the console. I checked the ATV manual to see what that was about.

The manual said a flashing thermometer means the ATV is overheating and should be shut down immediately.

I went to work trying to find the problem. The radiator was hidden under the plastic hood, which had an entry panel. I got to it, but not before breaking the entry panel locking pins.

The coolant was at its proper level so I put the entry panel in place and secured it with my favourite tool – duct tape. I checked out other parts of the machine, found nothing, but determined the ATV the cooling fan was not working.

Broken cooling fans are a bit beyond my mechanical skills so I called the ATV dealer and made an appointment.

I spent an hour shovelling out the ATV trailer, then loaded the machine, strapped it down and hauled it down the highway to the dealership.

The mechanic asked a couple of questions before logging the machine into the repair line.

"So you say the coolant is fine and you checked the fuse, right?"

Fuse? ATV's have fuses?

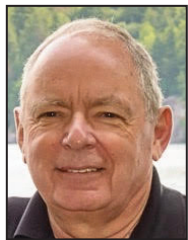
He gave me a strange look, pulled the seat off the ATV then opened a little black box that I always had wondered about but never opened. There were rows of little coloured fuses.

He pulled one fuse out and said: "Yep, blown fuse."

Later that day I was back plowing, my face cherry red, and not from the cold.

Email: shaman@vianet.ca

Profile: <http://www.amazon.com/-/e/B001K8FY3Y>



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock

letters to the editor

Construction oversight

To the Editor,

I have concerns about the construction of a public boat launch at Bob Lake. The cottagers association's well researched presentation neglected to mention that several hundred feet of private

road must be crossed in order to reach the proposed location, a fact that they were well aware of in advance of the meeting.

Laurie Brown

Our Fading Veterans

Veterans are our treasure,
But they are slowly passing away.
To see a veteran it's a pleasure
If a veteran comes your way.
They served our country Canada,
And they kept it strong and free.
Now there was the battle in the Atlantic
It was defended by our navy just for you
and me.
They were young Canadian navy boys,
Happy to serve fighting on the sea.
The battle for Britain was mostly in the
air,

The Germans had airplanes flying
everywhere,
But our air force won the battle,
There's not many veterans left, we only
have a few,
But they fought and won the battle
To protect Canada just for me and you.
We will always thank our veterans,
For what they did each day,
Our veterans are a treasure
But they are slowly fading away.

By: Arv Hoss Wilson

Holiday HIIT workout

Happy Holidays. Here's a gift from me to you. Try to act surprised and pleased. It's a Holiday HIIT workout! HIIT stands for high intensity interval training. That means that you boost your heart rate by doing an exercise and then you take a short break to let your heart rate recover, and then you do another exercise. By short break I mean seconds not minutes or hours. And no snacking. Water yes, but leave the calorie rich beverages for later on.

Are you ready to take this on?
Of course you are!

Start with a warm-up period that looks like this:

- Light jog on the spot for 30 seconds.
- Rocket Jumps for 30 seconds

(bend at the knees to touch the floor, and then stand and reach up to get on your toes, repeat)

Keep the movements slow and easy during the warm-up. Alternate between the two exercises and repeat them each four to five times. The idea is to get the blood flowing to the muscles to loosen them up before you start the fun stuff.

Here's the workout:

- Push-ups - complete five to 20 reps. At the wall or from your knees or toes.
- Squats - complete five to 20 reps. Keep your weight back on your heels, bend your knees and return almost a standing position. That is one rep.
- Jumping Jacks - complete 10 to 30 reps. If the jumping part is not for you, do a

modified version. That consists of starting with your feet together, and then step right as you raise your arms overhead. Return to the starting position, and then do the same movement on the left side.

- Mountain climbers - complete 10 to 20 reps. This is done on your hands and toes. Once you are in that position, you move one knee toward your chest, and then return to the starting position. Complete the same movement on the other side. These can also be done at a tabletop or counter to make things a bit easier.
- Superman - complete 10 to 20 reps. This is done lying belly down on the floor. Extend and raise your left leg and your

right arm two to three inches from the floor. Slowly return to starting the position. Repeat on the other side.

Repeat this sequence of exercises three to five times with a 10 to 20 second break between each exercise. Once you've completed the routine walk until your heart rate recovers, and then take a few minutes to stretch.

This is an example of a full body workout that will take between 15 and 25 minutes to complete. It may help to work out any cobwebs that have started to settle in. Enjoy! Something to think about.

Laurie Sweig is a certified personal trainer and spinning instructor. She is one of the founders of The Point for Fitness: www.the-pointforfitness.com.



LAURIE SWEIG
Practical Fitness

**Have a thought,
comment or opinion
you'd like to share?**

Send a letter
to the editor to
jenn@haliburtonpress.com



Skating into hearts

Santa Claus leads a group of Minden Skating Club students during a free skate day because of impending holidays on Monday, Dec. 18 at the S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena. Students from all of the club's programming were invited for the free skate, which included games and Santa's visit. Mondays are usually scheduled for CanSkate students./DARREN LUM Staff



The Minden Skating Club's students were visited by Santa Claus, who led a game of "What time is it Mr. Santa?"

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Highlands hosts Mishaabooz's Realm opera

The Highlands Opera Studio brought *Mishaabooz's Realm* to the Northern Lights Performing Arts Theatre from Dec. 21 to 22 after holding a performance in Montreal at the Studio-Théâtre Alfred-Laliberté. The first act of was called Creation. From left, Nathan Keoughan, Lauren Margison, Tara-Louise Montour (violin), and Andrew Balfour. /JENN WATT Staff



French settlers sing in Act 2 of *Mishaabooz's Realm* during a dress rehearsal at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion in Haliburton. The original opera was a collaboration between Highlands Opera Studio and L'Atelier Lyrique, L'Opéra de Montréal. It addressed Indigenous peoples' history and the lasting trauma of colonization.

Soprano Lauren Margison sings at the beginning of *Mishaabooz's Realm* at the dress rehearsal on Dec. 20. This performance combines opera and First Nations singers and instrumentalists and is the creation of Cree composer, Andrew Balfour. /JENN WATT Staff



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Winning effort, losing result

Above, Red Hawks junior forward James Alexander faces up Wildcats player Paul Hrudu in Kawartha High School Basketball League action on Thursday, Dec. 21 in Haliburton. The Hawks lost to the visiting AAA I.E. Weldon Wildcats 46-30. Hawks player Jaxon Gill led the team with 10 points followed by teammate Joe Boice with nine points. Right, Red Hawks junior centre Joe Boice blocks Wildcats point guard Gavin Bradburn in Kawartha High School Basketball League action on Thursday, Dec. 21 in Haliburton./DARREN LUM Staff



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			8				6	
	2		4		7			
	8	1			6		3	
5					9	8		7

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 16

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!



Hawks come up short

Red Hawks senior forward Kade Bain leaps for a rebound against Wildcats defender Jerry Scott in Kawartha High School Basketball League action on Thursday, Dec. 21 in Haliburton. The Hawks, who were led in scoring by Sam Longo with 16 points, were outpaced by the visiting AAA I.E. Weldon 49-37./DARREN LUM Staff

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WHAT'S ON stage THIS SUMMER

Romeo & Juliet



Romeo & Juliet

by William Shakespeare

In Verona violence rules, where two families bear an ancient grudge. In this world where greed, wealth and bitter feuds prevail, two children dare to choose love. The Prince decrees: if Montague or Capulet again disrupts the peace, death is the punishment. Underscored by ingenious wit and astonishing beauty, Romeo and Juliet is the greatest love story ever told.

**Performances July 2-5 (7:30 p.m.), 6 & 8
(2 p.m. matinee), 9 & 10 (7:30 p.m.).**

The Dining Room

by A.R. Gurney



The play is set in a fine dining room, the place where the family assembled daily for breakfast and dinner and for any and all special occasions. The action is a mosaic of interrelated scenes—some touching, some revealing, some hilarious—which, taken together, create an in-depth portrait of the rewards and trials of family life. The actors change roles, personalities and ages with virtuoso skill as they portray a wide variety of characters, from little boys to stern grandfathers, and from giggling teenage girls to Irish housemaids.

**Performances July 30 - Aug 2 (7:30 p.m.), 3 & 5
(2 p.m. matinee), Aug 7 & 8 (7:30 p.m.).**



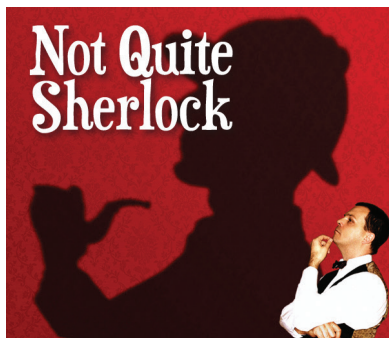
Cliffhanger

by James Yaffe

Mingling suspense and humour, this ingeniously plotted thriller follows all the unexpected twists and turns that result when a seemingly mild-mannered professor of philosophy is driven to apparent murder to protect his reputation and career.

**Performances July 16-19 (7:30 p.m.), 20 & 22 (2 p.m. matinee),
23 & 24 (7:30 p.m.).**

Not Quite Sherlock



Not Quite Sherlock

Created by and starring Chris Gibbs

Not Quite Sherlock is a one-man comedy about Victorian London's most overlooked detective. It's also a ridiculous comedy about an ex-street-performing comedian attempting to do a one-man comedy about Victorian London's most overlooked detective. With wit, charm, timing, and almost no respect for the rules of theatre, Chris Gibbs creates a simple, hilarious theatrical experience unlike any other.

Performances July 11 & 12 (7:30 p.m.), 13 (2 p.m. matinee).

NEW for 2018

Evening

Performances

start at 7:30 p.m.

Matinees at 2 p.m.

From Weimar to Vaudeville

by Tom Allen

The story of two men, both sons of musical royalty. As America emerges from the Great Depression and Germany descends into darkness and chaos, two musical princes, one rich, one poor, reach out to each other across hardship and time as the world tilts again toward war. Featuring music by Richard Strauss, Charlie Chaplin, Fletcher Henderson, Paul Hindemith, and Johannes Brahms, along with stunning original songs by the cast, Weimar to Vaudeville is Tom Allen's vivid imagining of the 20s and 30s: dirty as ever and roaring loudly enough to be heard half-way around the world.

Performances July 25 & 26 (7:30 p.m.), 27 (2 p.m. matinee).



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LOOK INSIDE



Warm Greetings

Our annual supplement brings Christmas cheer and good wishes to you from local businesses, as well as children's stories

See special section



Changing times

Lois Warburton to retire after 30 years of growth, change in county administration

See page 14

In Quotes

"If it comes to a vote on a tender, my vote will be no."
Clayton Cameron is one of three councillors who opposes a new MH office

See page 5

Minden Hills flips switch on evening meetings

by MATTHEW WALLS
Times staff

In a lengthy debate that led to accusations of dirty politics but finally ended in compromise, Minden Hills Township's new council decided to move one of its two monthly meetings to the evening.

Newly elected councillor Clayton Cameron asked council to do "anything it can" to help accommodate his work schedule. Cameron is the director of Public Works for the township of Severn.

During the election, Cameron said he would not be able to make all the meetings if council did not change its meetings from the day-time to the evening.

Moving to evening meetings would not be a big change, he said then, because the public would be better served and the change wouldn't cost the township anything. Even though township staff would be required to work the evenings, Cameron said the staff are paid on a salary and not wages, and therefore wouldn't be paid extra.

However, Cameron's optimism seemed greatly misplaced on

see COMPROMISE page 4



Presents: Kelsey Turner was one of the excited youngsters who received a present from Santa at Stanhope's Christmas party on Saturday

Gallery given suitcase full of treasures

by MATTHEW WALLS
Times staff

In the refined world of art collecting, where a great deal of time is spent in the sedate, cerebral processes of appraisal and appreciation, the sudden appearance of a rare, unknown collection of art comes like a shot of adrenalin, delivered by some beneficent deity and sending art lovers into

Andre Lapine drawings, artifacts join collection of artist's paintings

fits of rapture.

By its appearance, the well-travelled burgundy suitcase of the painter André Lapine, the edges of its cardboard frame worn but still solid, doesn't promise so

much.

For the past 50 years, however, that suitcase held within it an assortment of sketches, photographs and documents dating from the 1920s, 30s and 40s that

are together worth about half the value of the largest collection of Lapine's works, 50 paintings proudly owned by Minden's Agnes Jamieson Gallery.

This most recent addition to the gallery alone would elevate it into a higher level in the art world, said gallery administrator Laurie Carmont: "It is a hugely

see COMPROMISE page 4

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UPCOMING
Community
Events

Haliburton Pastoral Charge, New Years Eve Services

Morning Service-Joint Service for Ingoldsby and Lochlin United Churches
When: Dec. 31, 9 a.m. singing, 9:30 a.m. service
Where: Ingoldsby United Church, 1741 Ingoldsby Rd., Minden
Contemporary Service
When: Dec. 31, 11:15 a.m.
Where: Haliburton United Church

Legion Branch 624, Wilberforce

Dec. 31 New Years Eve Dance. DJ Mike 9 p.m. to close
Jan. 1 New Years Day, President's Levee 1:30 p.m.
Jan. 27 Crib tournament in Trenton 29/\$50 - 28/\$25 - 24/\$10

Therapeutic Touch® Level 1

When: Saturday, Jan. 13, 2018
Learn a holistic, evidenced based therapy that provides relaxation in any situation and boosts the immune system for improved healing, health and well being.
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Contact Susan Keith at 705-457-3981 or email: ch.concepts@sympatico.ca.

Haliburton: Sexual Health Clinic

When: Wednesday, January 10, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm.
The clinic provides clients with confidential access to cervical screening, low-cost birth control, pregnancy testing and sexual health teaching. Testing and treatment of sexually transmitted infections are also provided. For more information, locations or to make an appointment, call the Health Unit at 1-866-888-4577, ext. 2205.

Stone Soup

When: Wednesday, Jan. 10 from 5:30 to 9 p.m.
Where: Lochlin Community Centre
Tickets \$16 for supper and an evening of entertainment including Storytellers: Jim Blake and Fay Wilkinson, and live music by Chadmire + Taylor. A cash bar will feature Haliburton Highlands Brewing craft beers, and wine; we have lots of door prizes lined up.
Two years ago, a similar evening called "Slow Travels, Local Flavours" sold out to standing room only. So, take a moment now: Call, text 705 457-4767 to reserve your tickets. You can go to www.facebook.com/friendsoftherailtrailhaliburton for more information.

Legion Branch 129, Haliburton

Live entertainment featuring Jeff Moulton Saturday, Jan. 20, 4 to 7 p.m. in the Club Room. Enjoy a delicious meal for only \$6 prepared by the Ladies Auxiliary. \$5 cover charge for non members.

Looking back on Dorset's 2017

DORSET NEWS

Lee Ross
burgesslt@me.com

Well, we survived 2017! A lot has happened in 365 days in Dorset – the Snowball turned 27, some crazy people jumped in the lake in February for a good cause, ice fishermen and snow-mobilers had no complaints about the weather, we said goodbye to some familiar faces and hello to some new ones. The fitness room at the Dorset Rec Centre got an much needed upgrade (don't forget to buy your 2018 membership!), the humpback bridge

also got an overhaul, we once again welcomed Ironman cyclists to town, there were fish derbies, craft sales, garden tours, pottery classes and yoga and bake sales galore! We welcomed a new walking path and park at the old ball diamond, the Hub turned two, locals decorated scarecrows, the Pavilion and Christmas swag, lit the tree and threw a Halloween party for the little ones. 2018 is already shaping up to be a busy year, and you can keep track of what's going on by visiting dorsetcanada.com or the Facebook page: Dorset, Canada.

Happy birthday to Rebecca McFarlane and Hailey Pulfrey. For birthdays and submissions please send them to burgesslt@me.com.

Have a safe and happy new year and see you in 2018!



Bowling Scores

Fast Lane bowling stats for Monday afternoon, Dec. 11

High Average (cumulative)
Women – Chris Cote – 1957
Men – Claude Cote – 208
This Week's Highs – Women
High Single – Chris Cote – 231
High Triple – Chris Cote – 635
High Single Hcp – Gloria Taylor – 261
High Triple Hcp - Chris Cote – 710
This Weeks Highs – Men
High Single – Ken Thompson – 247
High Triple – Dave Stokes – 624
High Single Hcp – Bill Fry – 277
High Triple Hcp – Dale Freitag – 753

Tuesday Afternoon Bowling Dec. 12

Men
High Average Claude Cote 226
High Single Emile Duchene 236

High Single H/C Emile Duchene 289
High Triple Claude Cote 626
High Triple H/C Dave Tipton 698
Women
High Average Chris Cote 201
High Single Chris Cote 209
High Single H/C Shirley Venner 233
High Triple Chris Cote 538
High Triple H/C Shirley Venner 641

Tuesday Afternoon Bowling Scores Dec. 19

Men
High Average Claude Cote 225
High Single Ken Thompson 268
High Single H/C Ken Thompson 291
High Triple Ken Thompson 661
High Triple H/C John Pugh 741
Women
High Average Chris Cote 200
High Single Chris Cote 212
High Single H/C Ann Tipton 240
High Triple Chris Cote 550
High Triple H/C Barb Milligan 694

HHHS takes over bereavement groups, asks for public input

Grief and bereavement support will be offered through Haliburton Highlands Health Services' hospice and palliative care programming, the corporation announced in a press release earlier this month.

Formerly run by SIRCH Community Services, the support groups (known as Journey Through Grief groups) will now be brought under the HHHS umbrella.

Hospice and palliative care as well as Lunch for the Bereaved, an informal support group that meets regularly in Minden and Haliburton, are all provided by HHHS.

Until Jan. 18, HHHS is administering a questionnaire about what supports are needed in the region. It can be accessed online at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/73LJ65G> or by picking up a questionnaire at one of the following locations: Rexall Haliburton, Independent pharmacy, Highland Remedy Minden, Wilberforce Legion, Kinmount Legion, Haliburton Family Medical Centre Minden and Haliburton, Kinmount Medical Centre, Community Funeral Homes, Shoppers Drug Mart Haliburton, Wilberforce Pharmacy, Pharmasave Minden, Minden Legion, Haliburton Legion, HHHS various locations and Dorset Family Medical Centre.

"We want to have a really strong sense from the community as to how best to meet the needs of this particular community," said Stephanie MacLaren, VP of HHHS's community programs.

"Individual support with a volunteer or social worker is good for some, but many people find great value in the group support environment and vice versa. Responding to local need is especially important in our small rural geography – we need to find the right combination to meet the needs of the greatest number of people."

SIRCH thanked its volunteers who facilitated Journey Through Grief.

"The volunteer facilitators have dedicated hundreds of hours to facilitating the bereavement groups, and they have made such a difference in the lives of the group members. However, with no core funding to support the groups, it makes sense to pass the baton to HHHS," SIRCH executive director Gena Robertson said.

All volunteers, SIRCH and HHHS, are invited to be part of the HHHS bereavement supports and are encouraged to contact Amanda Rowden 705-457-2941 ext. 2932.

Times staff

SUDOKU SOLUTION

3	4	5	7	2	8	6	9	1
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6	7	8	1	9	3	2	4	5
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4	5	7	8	3	1	9	6	2
9	2	3	4	8	7	5	1	6
7	8	1	2	5	6	4	3	9
5	6	4	3	1	9	8	2	7

Hawks muzzle the Bulldogs on the road

The following are HHSS sports briefs for the week ending Dec. 22.

Congratulations to the Senior Red Hawks basketball team on an impressive 52-27 victory over the Brock Bulldogs on Tuesday, Dec. 19. Kade Bain and Coleman Heaven had the game of their lives. Kade had a double-double, scoring 16 points and pulling down 12 boards. Coleman poured in 10 points and pulled down eight boards. Owen Patterson-Smith chipped in eight points and had eight assists. Sam Longo notched six points and seven assists.

Strong D holds Hawks victory

The junior boys' Red Hawks team travelled with the seniors on Tuesday to play Brock High School's junior team in Cannington. Although it was a hard-fought game, the Red Hawks came out strong and ended the first half with a narrow

lead. Despite some frustrations in the second half, the team battled through and lost by a narrow two point margin. Point leaders for the game were Jaxon Gill and Joe Boice. The whole team played with excellent defensive tenacity led by Tevin Sullivan.

Senior Hawks show their quality

On Wednesday, Dec. 20, the senior girls' volleyball team travelled to Campbellford to practice their ever-improving skills against four other single 'A' schools. Your Lady Hawks finished the day with an impressive six wins and two losses record.

Junior squad rules the court

The junior girls' volleyball team travelled to St. Thomas to play four games and came out of the day at the top on Thursday, Dec. 21.

Submitted by Judi Paul

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390 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth and Parents and Haliburton Highlands Mental Health Services would like to remind the community that we provide quick and supportive access to mental health and counselling services.

Parents and Caregivers – if you are concerned about the mental health of your child or youth “0 to 18”, give Point in Time a call at 705-457-5345.

Youth can also call us directly.

Adults (16 and over) – if you are in need of mental health supports, please call Haliburton Highlands Mental Health Services at 705-286-4575.

Happy New Year!



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The Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) currently has exciting opportunity available for an energetic individual to join the team!

VP CLINICAL SERVICES & CNE

Permanent Full-time Position

The Vice President Clinical Services and Chief Nursing Executive is a key member of the Executive Leadership Team and has leadership oversight of all clinical and practice activities across HHHS including hospital and long-term care. This position is accountable for the development, delivery, and ongoing management of the overall clinical and practice vision for HHHS, including professional practice, clinical quality and performance, and safety, while creating an environment that promotes clinical and administrative best practices and excellence, and fosters a healthy work environment. As Chief Nursing Executive, this position sets standards for nursing and clinical professionals providing leadership in various organization-wide functions, projects and initiatives. The successful candidate will have a Master's Degree in Nursing, Healthcare Administration, or equivalent; current registration with the College of Nurses of Ontario; and a minimum of five (5) years of related management experience.

If you are interested in joining our team for the above positions, please submit your resume in confidence by January 21, 2018 to:

Haliburton Highlands Health Services

c/o Human Resources

Box 115, Haliburton, Ontario, K0M 1S0

hr@hhhs.ca

Fax: 705-457-4609

Haliburton Highlands Health Services thanks all applicants, however, only those selected for an interview will be contacted. If you are contacted by HHHS regarding a job opportunity or testing, please advise if you require accommodation for a disability. Information received relating to accommodation needs of applicants will be addressed confidentially.

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*Our thoughts go wandering,
When daylight fades.
To the land of long ago.
And memory paints the scenes of old,
In the gold of the twilight glow.
We seem to see in the soft dim light,
The faces we loved the best,
And think of them when the sun's last ray,
Goes down in the far off west.*

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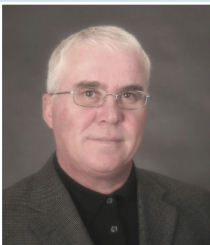
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